Steps for production of quality silk

1199. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps proposed to be taken by Government for the production of quality silk of all kinds in the country, so as to ensure that Chinese Silk being imported in a big way does not adversely affect those engaged in the production and processing of silk and the sale of finished silk sarees and garments; and

(b) if so, the details thereof with the proposed budget for the next three years beginning 1.4.07?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Following steps have been proposed for the production of quality silk in the country during the XI Plan period:-

1. Strengthening the research and development systems to improve the levels of cocoons production and productivity.

2. Enlarge the annual raw silk production base to the tune of 26,000 MTs by the end of XI Plan, including 5,000 MTs of import substitute Bivoltine silk and 3,000 MTs of Vanya Silk.

3. Focus on quality silkworm seed production in private sector through required technical and financial support for the establishment of Silkworm Seed Production Centres with all required facilities and adopted seed rearers so as to ensure self sufficiency in seed requirement.

4. Facilitate production of quality raw silk in bulk through corporate sericulture involving contract farming, setting up of automatic/semi automatic, reeling machines and multi-end reeling machines in selected clusters to meet the demand of domestic power loom and export sector.

5. Continuation of Catalytic Developmental Programmes with certain modifications and higher levels of central subsidy for transfer of improved technology in the field. The Components under CDP are together aimed at development and expansion of host plantations, development of farm infrastructure, up-gradation of reeling and processing technologies in silk, enterprise development programme etc.

(b) In order to achieve the aforesaid target/approaches proposed during the XI Plan, Government of India through Central Silk Board/State Sericulture Departments would focus on the cluster approach in Project mode under 2-3 major heads *viz.*, Seed, Cocoon, Post-cocoon Sectors. The package under Seed Sector will have Components for seed production in the public/private sector and/or with public-private partnership in case of mulberry sector and through support for private graineurs in the Vanya sector. The package under Cocoon Sector supports the Components for food plant development (mulberry varieties like VI) together with the technology and concerted effort to produce bivoltine silk, providing irrigation facilities, construction of rearing houses, supply of rearing equipments including improved mountages, chawki rearing centres, with the essential insurance coverage in case of both mulberry and vanya sectors. Package for Post-cocoon Sector covers

the Components for silk reeling and spinning, silk weaving, silk wet processing and bye-product utilization and also for marketing support.

Proposed budget provisions for the next three years is as follows:-

Year 2007-08 — Rs. 110.00 crores

Year 2008-09 — Rs. 165.22 crores

Year 2009-10 — Rs. 189.69 crores

Integrated textile park at Palakkad

1200. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal from the Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporations (KINFRA) for establishing an Integrated Textiles Park at Palakkad, Kerala has been received;

(b) if so, the progress made for its approval; and

(c) if no progress has been made, the reason for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Request was received from the Government of Kerala for setting up of a Textile Park at Palakkad, Kerala by the Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA). Government of Kerala was informed that action had been initiated for continuation of the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) in the XI Five Year Plan. While Industry Associations/Groups of Entrepreneurs are main promoters of the Integrated Textile Parks, the Scheme provides equity participation not exceeding 49% by State Government or State owned Corporation. As soon as a decision is taken to continue the Scheme in the Eleventh Plan, the Project Management Consultant would be advised to get in touch with the KINFRA and other interested textile entrepreneurs of Palakkad region for development of Textile Park.

Closure of NTC mills

1201. SHRI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) how many NTC Mills have been closed and number of workers retrenched so far, particularly in the Maharashtra State;

(b) whether Government have taken any concrete steps for reviving NTC sick mills with the support of private players; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As per Modified Revival Scheme (MRS) approved by the Board